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TAGS: [OPRC](#) [KMDR](#) [TU](#)
SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE
THEMES:

HEADLINES
BRIEFING
EDITORIAL OPINION

HEADLINES

MASS APPEAL
`Saddam myth' nearing end - Hurriyet
U.S. troops' `show of force' in the heart of Iraq - Aksam
Saddam's last days - Milliyet
U.S. troops' cigarette break in Saddam's palaces - Milliyet
Iraq's Information Minister As-Sahaf still `broadcasting
live' - Sabah
Civilians caught between two fires - Vatan
UN wants Iraqi oil revenues - Hurriyet
Wolfowitz: UN will have limited role in post-war Iraq -
Vatan
U.S. wants to try Saddam in U.S. and Iraq - Sabah
Wolfowitz: Syria helps Iraq - Turkiye

OPINION MAKERS
Century's disgrace: Mothers, children under fire -
Cumhuriyet
Invaders seize three presidential palaces in Baghdad -
Cumhuriyet
Americans settle in Baghdad - Radikal
Massacre in the heart of Baghdad - Yeni Safak
War of nerves in Baghdad - Yeni Safak
Americans' `show of force' in Baghdad of 6 m civilians -
Zaman
Blair, Bush disagree over UN role in post-war Iraq - Radikal
Syrian FM: Aftermath of Iraq war will bring chaos - Yeni
Safak

FINANCIAL JOURNALS
IMF's \$4.2 billion `kiss of life' boosts markets - Dunya
AKP expected to replace Treasury U/S Oztrak - Finansal Forum

BRIEFING

Iraq: Mainstream papers believe the `myth of Saddam'
collapsed, and that the end of the Iraqi tyrant is near.
Saddam is said to have fled to his hometown Tikrit, thus
coalition forces are now headed there, papers say. Pro-
Islamic papers accuse Americans of `slaughtering' women and
children in Baghdad, and shooting at everything that moved.
"Zaman" accuses U.S. of making a `show of force' in a city
of six million civilians. Reports regard the Saddam statue
demolished by local people in Karbala, and U.S. troops
entering Saddam's palaces as signs of psychological defeat
for the Iraqi regime. "Cumhuriyet" says that during the
Ankara visit of the Iranian Foreign Minister Kharrazi,
Turkey and Iran have agreed to stand against a sovereign
Kurdish state, and a post-war government manufactured by
foreign powers. Interests of neighboring countries should
be considered while Iraq's future is being restructured, the
two countries agreed. "Cumhuriyet" underlines the fact that
Ankara did not want to be seen forming a coalition with Iran
and Syria, and that Foreign Minister Gul would seek a
bilateral understanding with Syria during his visit to
Damascus on Sunday. Syrian Foreign Minister Al-Shara told a
private Turkish TV channel on Monday that Rumsfeld and other
U.S. officials' allegations of the presence of WMD in Syria
were false. `They've invaded two-thirds of Iraq, but could
not find any WMD. Their accusation of Syria possessing WMD
is groundless, and indicate the mistake they've made in
Iraq,' Al-Shara said. Press commentaries are doubtful that
U.S. will fulfill its pledge to keep the Kurds away from

Mosul and Kirkuk, and draw attention to U.S. reluctance about giving written guarantees. Foreign Minister Gul denied on Monday reports about a Turkish dipnote to U.S. on the issue. Dailies report talks between MFA and U.S. Ankara Embassy continued regarding carriage of humanitarian aid and logistical supply from Turkey to Northern Iraq, but that no progress was recorded on the coordination mechanism for monitoring developments in the region.

EDITORIAL OPINION: Post war scenarios

"Now the real war starts"

Serdar Turgut commented in mass appeal Aksam (4/8): "It seems that the CIA's influence will prevail over the view of other departments about Ahmad Chalabi. He will no longer be viewed as the key figure in the restructuring of Iraq. In the post-Saddam government, we should expect a group of Americans serving as ministers in Iraq. The US is very determined to implement its 'new world order,' and the formation of the new Iraqi government will demonstrate this fact. According to the CIA, James Woolsey is the leading name for the new Information Minister in Iraq. It is interesting to see that certain elements within the Washington administration do not even care about possible uneasiness in the world concerning the appointment of a former CIA chief as a minister in Iraq. . A recent report by the Army War College clearly indicates that the US should stay in the region for a long time in order to finish the job. 'Reconstructing Iraq: Insights, Challenges and the Mission for Military Forces in a post-conflict scenario' foresees no less than 135 major tasks to accomplish in Iraq in the post-war period in order to prevent another crisis. Turkey should be prepared for living with chaos in its immediate neighborhood for a very long time."

"As Pandora's box opens"

Sedat Ergin wrote in mass appeal Hurriyet (4/8): "The US will eventually claim victory as expected, but the next phase of the Iraq issue -- the restructuring -- will be even more critical than the war itself. Iraq is made up of a very complex set of ethnic groups and religious sects. We cannot even give a precise figure of the ethnic diversity, since there has been no census since 1985. . However, the new Iraqi structure can only function if all of the Iraqi elements reach a consensus. Yet finding a formula to achieve such a consensus is certainly a very tough job. . It is also possible to see many players assuming a role of influence in the future Iraq, which could mean competition and even conflict. . There is still a question yet to be answered: To what extent will the people of Iraq accept the US-imposed formula and move on with things? How will the restructuring of Iraq be turned to the establishment of democracy with political parties?"

PEARSON